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ACTION ARA-16

INFO	OCT-00	COPY-01	ADS-00	AID-07	INR-10	SS-10	CIAE-00
	DODE-00	H-01	NSC-01	NSAE-00	HA-08	L-03	TRSE-00
	PM-08	PA-02	OMB-01	SAL-01	USIE-00	SP-02	SNP-01
	PRS-01	/073 W					

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R 302017Z JUN 83
FM AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7778

UNCLAS BUENOS AIRES 04416

FOR ARA/SC AND HA/HR

E.O. 12356: N/A
TAGS: SHUM, AR
SUBJ: DISAPPEARANCE OF CARLOS ALBERTO BAMBALLI

REFS: (A) STATE 125989, (B) BUENOS AIRES 3159

ARGENTINA PROJECT (S200000044;
U.S. DEPT. OF STATE, A/RPS/IPS
Margaret P. Grafeld, Director
(X) Release () Excise () Deny

Exemption(s): _____
Declassify: () In Part () In Full
() Classify as () Extend as () Downgrade to
Date _____ Declassify on _____ Reason _____

1. SINCE THE EMBASSY RECEIVED NO REPLY FROM THE GOA TO
OUR NOTE OF MAY 11 REGARDING THE DISAPPEARANCE OF CARLOS
ALBERTO BAMBALLI, WE MADE TWO MORE APPROACHES.

2. ON JUNE 22, THE POLITICAL COUNSELOR RAISED THE CASE
WITH GUILLERMO LAZCANO QUINTANA, UNDERSECRETARY OF THE
MINISTRY OF INTERIOR. LAZCANO WAS WELL ACQUAINTED WITH
THE CASE, WHICH HE DID NOT BELIEVE INVOLVED HUMAN RIGHTS,
BUT HAD NO NEW INFORMATION.

3. ON JUNE 30, THE HUMAN RIGHTS OFFICER SPOKE WITH
COLONEL (RET) CARLOS ALBERTO TEPEDINO, DIRECTOR GENERAL
FOR INTERNAL SECURITY IN THE INTERIOR MINISTRY. TEPEDINO
HAD NO NEWS EITHER, BUT HE MADE TWO POINTS: FIRST, THAT
THE POLICE HAD INITIALLY BELIEVED BAMBALLI TO BE INVOLVED
IN A DRUG RING, BUT HAD RECENTLY DISCARDED THAT BELIEF.

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SECOND, THAT, AS LAZCANO BELIEVES, THIS CASE SHOULD NOT
BE CONSIDERED A HUMAN RIGHTS QUESTION, A JUDGMENT THEY

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BASE ON CONTACTS THEY HAVE HAD WITH BAMBALLI'S FAMILY AND FRIENDS. TEPEDINO MAINTAINED THAT IT SHOULD BE VIEWED AS A ROUTINE MISSING PERSONS CASE, AS OCCUR IN BIG CITIES ALL THE TIME. EMBOFF EXPLAINED THE CONGRESSIONAL INTEREST, AND SAID SENATORS AND CONGRESSMEN UNDOUBTEDLY VIEW THE CASE AS ONE INVOLVING HUMAN RIGHTS. TEPEDINO PROMISED TO LOOK INTO IT AND TO GET BACK TO US.

4. FYI, DR. MARIO GORENSTEIN, FORMER PRESIDENT OF THE JEWISH UMBRELLA ORGANIZATION CALLED THE DAIA, TOLD US THAT HE RAISED THIS CASE WITH ARGENTINA'S AMBASSADOR TO THE U.S. WHEN GORENSTEIN WAS IN WASHINGTON IN JUNE, BUT OBTAINED NO NEWS. END FYI.

5. WE HAVE INFORMED THE BAMBALLI FAMILY OF OUR LATEST EFFORTS. THEY HAVE NO NEWS EITHER. SHLAUDEMAN

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